

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 16610 191848Z

46

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /055 W

----- 115794

R 191842Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6746

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMCONSUL BELFAST

AMCONSUL EDINBURGH

AMCONSUL LIVERPOOL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LONDON 16610

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UK, PINT

SUBJECT: COMMITTEE PROPOSALS ON CONSERVATIVE PARTY
LEADERSHIP ELECTION PROCEDURES

REF: LONDON 14997

1. SPECIAL COMMITTEE APPOINTED BY LEADER HEATH AND
CHAired BY SIR ALEC DOUGLAS HOME (REFTEL) MADE ITS
REPORT TO HEATH A FEW DAYS AGO AND HE AUTHORIZED
PUBLICATION OF REPORT. MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT HAVE BEEN
PROVIDED WITH COPIES OF PROPOSALS, AND HEATH ANNOUNCED
THAT PROPOSALS WERE ACCEPTABLE TO HIM IF ACCEPTABLE TO
THE PARTY AS A WHOLE. PROPOSALS ENVISAGE PROGRESSIVE
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PAGE 02 LONDON 16610 191848Z

BALLOTING SYSTEM REQUIRING UP TO MAXIMUM OF THREE BAL-

LOTS, RESTRICT ELECTORATE TO CONSERVATIVE MEMBERS OF HOUSE OF COMMONS, PROVIDE DETAILS ON NOMINATIONS, SET UP PROCEDURES FOR SOLICITING VIEWS OF PARTY MEMBERSHIP AT LARGE THROUGH PARTY ASSOCIATIONS, AND CALL FOR "CONFIRMATION" OF ELECTED LEADER BY SPECIAL PARTY SESSION INVOLVING MPS, CONSERVATIVE PEERS, AND REPRESENTATIVES OF PARTY ORGANS.

2. IF ADOPTED WITHOUT SIGNIFICANT CHANGE, COMMITTEE'S PROPOSALS SOMEWHAT IMPROVE HEATH'S CHANCES OF REMAINING LEADER PARTICULARLY BECAUSE OF THE ABSENCE OF ANY DECLARED CANDIDATE OTHER THAN MRS. THATCHER. HOWEVER, MANY CONSERVATIVES ARE BOTH CONCERNED AND IRRITATED ABOUT THE SUGGESTED PROCEDURES AND THE FURTHER DELAYS REQUIRED BEFORE THE LEADERSHIP CONTROVERSY IS SETTLED.

3. FURTHER DETAILS AND COMMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED BY AIRGRAM.

SPIERS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SPEECHES, POLITICAL PARTIES, SPECIAL ELECTIONS, ELECTION CAMPAIGNS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
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Review Markings:

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30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: PINT, UK, CONSERVATIVE PARTY, (HEATH, HAROLD)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005